



Happy Holidays! Have a great vacation!



Fall Play pg. 2

Fall Concert
South Park
Humor

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"There is a kind of poetry in simple fact."
-Edward Abbey



Boys' Basketball pg.15

Mouth of the River

1997 Winner of the Seacoast Journalism Awards for Writing, Layout, Graphics, and General Excellence in a High School Newspaper

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Block Scheduling

Mehrun Etabari

MOR Staff

A task force is currently investigating an issue that divides Oyster River students, faculty, and parents in opinion: Alternative Scheduling.

The debate over whether or not to make the switch to block scheduling has sparked strong reactions in the ORHS community. At the end of January, all eyes will be on the task force as they release their findings and make a proposal regarding the issue to the faculty.

In a full block scheduling system, class periods would be longer in order to provide more class time for extended projects. Due to the longer class periods, not all periods would fit into one day, and classes would not meet every day.

The task force, with about eight permanent members and several part-time members including students, faculty, and community members, is headed by Mr. Tappan and Ms. Smith. They have investigated alternative scheduling mostly by visiting about 12 other high schools with the block system. The schools include Biddeford, Marshwood, Concord, Hanover, John Stark, Hanover, and Champlain Valley High School in northern Vermont. Despite its great distance from Oyster River, Champlain Valley was visited because of its reputation of having a highly successful block scheduling system. The task force also conducted an OREW forum on alternative scheduling in early December.

After investigating these schools, the task force learned

Scheduling--see pg.4

Will Walkmans Be Banned?

Joe Beland

MOR Staff



Adam Goss may never again wear headphones in school

Will portable cassette and CD players be walking out the doors? A proposal to ban walkmans from ORHS came before the Bobcat Leadership Team and the Senate last week. Assistant Principal Bryan Lane raised this issue to the administration.

After lively discussion from many points of view in the BLT meeting, Mr. Cairns referred this issue to the Senate and promised to bring the matter to the general faculty meeting later in January.

The Senate voted to turn the walkman issue over to the Senate School Rules Committee. They will publicize the problem in the student body and gather information between now and the end of the semester, mid January. The Senate will make a recommendation at its January 15 meeting. The faculty will also discuss the matter and make a recommendation to the management team.

"The worse case scenario is that students

Walkmans--see pg.4

Fall Champions Honored

Joe Beland

MOR Staff

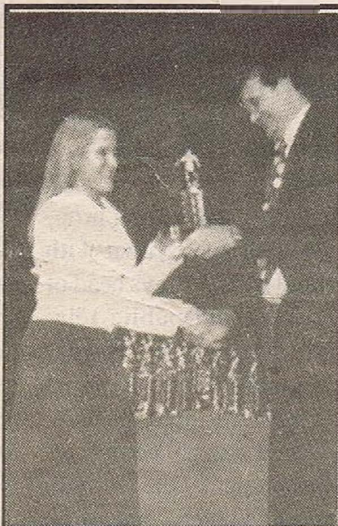
The first fall sports awards were held on December 2nd. This was the first time that there was a fall sports awards, rather than an annual sports awards featuring all of the seasons. The general consensus

was that the sports awards went fairly well. "I really enjoyed the more sped up format," said soccer extraordinaire Marc Hubbard.

There were some mixed reactions to the night, however. One notable downfall was that there was no food prior to the festivities. "I was really bummed that there was no food before the awards because it was a time where the players and parents could socialize with one another. The serving of food created a positive and laid back atmosphere," said Scott Howard.

Another aspect of the fall sports awards that some people were opposed to was the breaking of tradition. "I was extremely disappointed that the yearly sports awards has been broken up into different nights. It has been a long tradition that I wanted to

Awards--see pg.4



Meri Watson receives her award

Fiesta Time for French, Spanish Students

Laurie Witham

MOR Staff

On December 9th students were greeted with "¡bienvenido!" and "bien venue!". This years level 3 and 4 foreign language festival went very well. There were many plays going on throughout the evening as well as food in the

cafeteria and there were a few cultural videos on display.

Even with 11 classes participating, Senora Modern felt that it was completely organized. "It [the festival] was very successful, parents and students seemed very happy."



The foreign language festival was a success!

Star-Crossed Lovers' Story Staged

Erin Carter
MOR Staff

Cosby and Raynes light up stage...

Romeo and Juliet--so it's been done once or twice, but the crew at Oyster River performed with powerful emotion and spirit.

Brian Raynes and Kristen Cosby played the leading role in the last fall play of their high school career on Saturday, the performance was without. "Being a senior Romeo would be my pivotal role," Brian stated. He plans to continue pursuing theater into college making it his minor. "I love it so much, I refuse to quit." Last summer Brian participated in the Hackmatack theater. He was also in Sorry Wrong Number, last years senior directed play.

The play aired Thursday-Saturday December 3-5. Friday night was a "disaster" as Cosby explained it. First the fireplace scenery fell hitting Juliet and the nurse in the head. "It was amazing that Kristen and

forced to break Shakespearean repetition and yelled, "get it out of my face!" The play was fantastic Saturday, "I felt that the dialogue was extremely difficult and handled well. The passion shown by Emma Weisman, Kristin Cosby and Robert Eggers in that performance was extraordinary," stated Mr. Lane.

Mrs. Alexander has pro-

netted over \$700.00 and the scenery cost \$60 and the platform around \$200.

Mrs. Alexander also comments on how funny the nurse and Capulet were. Emma Weisman, Ashley Mills and Robert Eggers, will be familiar faces in theater of Oyster River. "there is alot of potential in the freshman class, each actor was outstanding," stated

awed Abbey Cooley. She also commented that the sword fighting and the dancing scene were not as action packed as they should of been. "The dancing scene is where Romeo and Juliet fall in love and the sword scenes are supposed to be thrilling."

"Although I don't know how they would do it differently, the scenery was stark; if you can see people running around doing organization and scene changes it takes away from the performance," said Mr. Lane on Saturday nights show. Packed with humor and talent, enough

emotion to give you goose bumps, and the passion when Romeo wooed Juliet, the play was missing nothing except the balcony kiss, which was made up three embraces later.

duced a longline of other plays and she was impressed by how well the cast worked together and astonished by their ability to handle lines that were so difficult and emotion-packed. It is estimated that the play



Romeo and Juliet light up the stage

Penguin Powered Unity

Devin Foxall

MOR News Editor

Bluesy vocals, golden trombones and hot sax were all present at Thursday's jazz band assembly. Although the jazz band boasts many all-state members and promising future inductees, their main strength lies in their penguin powered unity that echoes a music more tightly knit than anything before seen in Oyster River history.

Each fiber that ran through the band would draw and weave itself together and become the muscle needed to drive a lifetime's worth of feelings and emotions into an hour long performance.

Many of these feelings could be transformed through the freedom filled muse of Jazz. "It's a jazz freedom, freedom of the mind, freedom of the

soul... just freedom of everything. Creation and end all at the same time." believes sax player Chris Brandon.

Hardly untamed, the band found a perfect balance between strength and control. The band could bend and contort their talents with the same ease and flexibility of a Roman gymnast.

Part of the band's flexibility comes from a philosophy brought out by sax player Jeff Spires. "Everything's got a rhythm, you just have to know which song to listen to. Above all, you have to put your personality into jazz."

Like an experienced barkeep, the band could quickly serve up a variety of ailing tonics, ranging from a Vandross brand elixir to a stout brew done Mozart style. Like faithful patrons, the audience indis-

criminately drank all that was given to them like post-marathon Gatorade.

One of the most exciting and powerful moments of jazz is the solo where the musician plays whatever comes to mind. The solo is a chance for deep personal discovery and creative improv. What goes through the mind of the musician is reflected in their music.

Spikes thinks of a perfect day. "It was a nice summer, and I was swimming. Suddenly I realized that I didn't want this moment to end and I thought to myself this is what I'm going to think about. It's so surreal. Surrealism is what you've got to think about when doing a solo. And I try to pass that on to the audience."

Tenor sax player Josh
Concert--see pg.4



The Frost Sawyer House before renovations

Colonial Mansion

Restored as Luxury Inn

Kevin Pemberton

MOR Staff

The world moves in cycles. Night and day, life and death, and recently, the restoration of what is now The Three Chimneys Inn.

For the past seven years, Jane and Ron Pierson, and an incredibly dedicated staff have been working to transform the old Frost-Sawyer house on Route 108 into one of the most elegant bed and breakfasts in the state.

Originally built by the Hill family in 1648, the homestead is the oldest of its kind still standing in Durham. It was originally used for milling masts for

"Many of the workers who helped prepare the inn for the opening were students here at Oyster River..."

Tall Ships. Gundalows would load the wood from the Town Landing adjacent to the house, and float it back to Portsmouth. The Hill family also gave land to the community to start a school, which would eventually become The University of New Hampshire. The house was later occupied alternatively by two families--the Frosts and the Sawyers. Two of the children eventually married, and the house stayed in the family until the 1960's. From there, the house traded hands with owners and real estate companies. The house was then occupied by 14 college students, until being bought by Ron and Jane Pierson.

"When we started, the property was all overgrown with grass and weeds," says head of advertising and public relations, Stephanie Burns. "We've landscaped the formal gardens and restored the barn. Because of its age, certain requirements set by the Durham Historical Society had to be met during restoration, but we wanted to maintain the historical integrity. The only things

that are brand new, besides the plumbing and electrical work, are the cellar located in the barn and the terrace outside. The barn was sagging, so we had to lift it out of the ground and dig the cellar six feet deeper. The terrace is built on to the outside of the house for outdoor dining."

Many of the workers who helped prepare the inn for the opening were students here at Oyster River. Josh Smith, a senior, drew

the image of the inn which now appears on all of their pamphlets and advertising. OR graduates Amos Goss, Mike

Merenda, Chris Merenda, and Megan Smith were among others who helped in the repair, landscaping, and renovation of the grounds. "We want to work with the high school by offering students learning opportunities and jobs," says Burns.

The inn has 25 rooms which can each accommodate several people. Each room is outfitted with a canopy bed and a fireplace. IN the more expensive rooms, other luxuries including jacuzzis are available. The cost of the rooms range from \$140-\$180 per night. The rest of the house consists of two fine dining rooms, a tavern, two conference rooms, and a smaller dining/function room.

"I'm really excited about this piece of property," says owner, Jane Pierson. "I think it's really going to help the community. Aside from the New England Center, all of the hotel businesses was going to Portsmouth. I can only see good things in the future." The Three Chimneys Inn is scheduled to have a grand opening on Wednesday, December 29.

Oral Historian Concerned for OR Student Body

Jamie Renner
MOR Staff

Cindy Cohen, a bright, probing, concerned Oral Historian, brought a picture of her ancestors to Oyster River High School this winter to accompany a story about their struggles during World War II.

During a presentation in the high school library, far from Germany, far from 1945, she discussed the execution of her family by the Nazis. She passed photocopies of the family picture to the group—she volleyed to students the heart of her story on paper.

While she spoke, her picture was destroyed by members of the audience; her grandparents now had blue-ink horns, darkened faces, evil eyebrows, and obscenities etched across their chests. Part of the Oyster River community rejected her anecdote; part of the community rejected her.

After students filed out of the library, Cindy Cohen found the ruined picture.

"My initial reaction wasn't anger," she commented. "I was sad, startled, upset." The incident invoked her to dig deeper into the roots—the halls, the classrooms—of Oyster River High School, and pose the question: "Do students know how to welcome an outsider?"

She spoke specifically about herself as the outsider, but pointed out that the concept of rejection and the term "outsider" applies even more closely to teens. "Do students reject each other?" she questioned. "Do students feel safe here in the ways that they are

unique and different?"

"The job of an oral historian is to teach how stories can be expressed in visual ways." It seems the story of a student, an attitude, surfaced in a visual way: stray ink on her picture.

In an interview, she hinted that the subtle, sometimes unseen undertones of society are

**"Do students
know how to
welcome an
outsider?"**

-Cindy Cohen

often the heaviest and most dangerous. "If the attitudes are here, it's good that they surface. We need to question what's going on in these peoples' lives. Their attitudes need to be challenged."

But, by whom? "The community," she elaborated, "you, Oyster River."

Do students feel like they need to take action against their own community? Is there even a community to fix?

"No," said, in an interview, senior Emily Bonaccorsi, "it's not my job to stop people who are ruining the school. Someone else could."

Is Oyster River a community?

"Yes," Bonaccorsi responded, "Oyster River is a community."

In an ideal community, should people take responsibility for their other commu-

nity member's actions?

"Yes," she said, "in a small community, ideally, people should care about what their other community members are doing. If they didn't, they wouldn't be a community."

So, if Oyster River students don't feel the need to take responsibility for each other's actions, is Oyster River High School still a community?

"Oh, I guess not. I'm contradicting myself."

Several students, when interviewed, fell into the same contradiction; despite feeling no responsibility in being a community member, students felt that Oyster River was a community.

"Well, there is a community here," commented Assistant Principal Bryan Lane, "but different people feel it at different levels." Students feel different amounts of responsibility in being a part of solutions to this school's problems.

"Unfortunately," Mr. Lane added, "the only time you can measure 'community' is in the face of great adversity." Mr. Lane spoke about how sad events and tragedies seem to pull together an institution.

Is the picture defacing a tragedy?

"No," said senior Rachel Gooze, "but it's a warning. Kids need to re-examine their part in this community. We need to start feeling responsible for being a part of the solutions to problems here in school."

She added, "A community is built by individuals taking responsibility for the outsiders."

Federal Governments Forces Tax Change on N.H.

Kevin Pemberton

MOR Staff

Taxes. A word most teens regard as belonging to the world of adulthood. The taxation system seems as foreign as the Botswana jungle to most teens. However, living in Durham, Lee, and Madbury submits

many kids to an endless banter about the high taxes that precede a quality education in New Hampshire.

On December 18, the New Hampshire supreme court ruled that the current system of funding education by property taxes was unconstitutional. 90% of educational funding in New Hampshire is generated by local property taxes. The court gave the state legislature until the end of 1998 to change the system to create more equal funding.

There are no specific guidelines in the ruling by the court about how to change the tax structure.

The current system creates a large discrepancy in funding between the communities with large property values and more

property poor communities. The December 18 ruling was made in reaction to a suit filed by the Claremont School District and several surrounding districts stating that property tax funding is not constitutional. The issue of taxes has always been a point of dissension

in the Oyster River community, and the phenomenally high taxes causes many residents to vote down school improvement bonds and other propositions that would raise taxes. In February, the community will vote on the bond for improvement of the high school, at a cost of 12.5 million dollars. This estimate does not include the cost of a new auditorium.

At this point in time it is not known how the state will proceed in

changing the tax system, or how these changes will impact the population of Durham, Lee, and Madbury. It is clear, however, that this groundbreaking ruling will drastically change the way education is funded in New

**"Taxes. A word
most teens re-
gard as belong-
ing to the world
of adulthood..."**

**"90% of educa-
tional funding in
New Hampshire
is generated by
local property
taxes..."**

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Computers Invade OR Classrooms

Mehrun Etabari

MOR Staff

The face of education at Oyster River is changing. Computers are coming into use more and more as educational tools in our school, and one cannot get through the school day without being taught in part with a computer's aid.

With word processing, spreadsheets, educational software and the internet, computers are fast becoming as important a part of the educational landscape as the notebook and #2 pencil.

Computers have quickly become accepted in our school as excellent educational tools. Nowhere is this more evident than in our school's burgeon-

ing computer lab, a common spot to find students during their free periods putting the finishing touches on a report or project.

The increased interest in computers has resulted in more success for the computer department. The department currently offers Intro to Computers, Pascal, Business Applications, and Pagemaker courses, and computers teacher Mrs. Sheldon wants to see the department expand. She would like to offer a new course in webpage design next year, although she has not proposed this to the administration yet. She would also like to offer a course in using entrepreneurial software. Mrs. Sheldon would

also like the number of computers available to students to be increased.

Undoubtedly one of the fastest growing computer fields is the internet. Although only a few years old, the World Wide Web is now used for entertainment, business, and, of course education. In a poll of ORHS students conducted for this article, 70% responded that they frequently use the internet as a resource when assigned research projects. Mrs. Sheldon agrees that the internet is an exceptional resource of information. However, she does believe that problems arise with the internet when "people are surfing places that they shouldn't be."

Walkmans

from page 1

Joe Beland

MOR Reporter

can't use walkmans from 7:00 am to 2:30 p.m. Mr. Lane doesn't want to see walkmans at school during school hours, at all. Students would be allowed to use their walkmans while they are on the bus, but once they enter the building they have to immediately put their walkman in their locker," said Senate moderator Greg Evans.

Mr. Lane cited several statistics about disciplinary and theft problems related to Walkmans. "We have had twenty-three cases over the last couple of years of thefts, many fights, some of them physical," he explained.

Tracking down these theft cases has occupied numerous staff hours in investigations and meetings, some of them with irate parents. On one occasion, Mr. Lane had to call to Circuit City to get identification numbers to prove to a parent that his child had stolen the Walkman in his possession.

Although the student handbook declares that students are responsible to secure their personal belongings, many parents hold the school responsible to track down cases of theft.

The 1997 Student Handbook

declares: "'Walkman' type players only are permitted at school. These must be used with headphones, and are NOT to be used during classes, study hall, in the library, or during detention.."

Sally Torbert, a senator for the sophomore class said "If you really want to get rid of the problem in classes, you have to discourage the students from bringing them in the first place. If walkmans are not completely banned it would be too tempting for kids to abuse them."

Many student senators expressed concerns that some students are tuning out of class discussions by tuning on their headsets. Some said that students play headsets so loud that it can be heard elsewhere in the room.

"Something definitely has to be done. Everyone at Oyster River has the need and right to learn. Anything that interrupts or takes away that right should be discontinued," said Emilia Parker, a freshman senator.

Examples were cited of disrespect to teachers and peers by students wearing Walkmans. In the holiday concert by the band and chorus, five students were disciplined for wearing Walkmans.

"I think that if we [the band] are going to take the time to play

for the school and take them out of class they should have the decency to listen," said Scott Howard, band member.

At the faculty meeting, some teachers expressed concerns about depriving students of their "personal freedom" and invading their personal "space."

"The walkman is a major part of the world, and it is important for people to use walkmans properly, in context, and by banning walkmans it's saying students are incapable of using technology correctly. By in large, what happens in the world reflects on what goes on in school. A major goal of the school is to make the school experience similar to the outside world. This is so that students will have an easier time moving from school into the outside world. If we tamper with the school environment, it's going to be harder for the students to adjust to the outside world," said Mr. Gasowski.

The Senate School Rules Committee will meet shortly to make a plan for investigating the Walkman controversy. According to committee chairperson Mike Casey, "this issue is just at the beginning stages, and the school rules committee will be examining this issue thoroughly throughout this upcoming month."

Awards= Concert

graduate with. It was kind of depressing, a tradition has been ruined," said Jesse Smith

The surprise of the night was that the boy's soccer received plaques for their Class I championship. Prior to the evening the team thought that they would have to fund the plaques themselves because the boosters cut the funding for the championship plaques before the season. Sophomore Brett Wyman commented, "I was really surprised that we got the plaques. I thought we were going have to pay for them ourselves, which really irritated me because in past years the boosters had funded everything and finally after a decade the boys' soccer team won the championship and they were going to get shafted out of a plaque."

The girls' cross country team was also acknowledged for their tremendous achievements of their third straight championship by receiving plaques, as well as \$2000 from a generous parent." I was very surprised to receive such a generous donation. It really shows that people truly care about what we do," said junior runner Kaitlin Gregg.

The night was capped off

Tenor sax player Josh Winslow thinks of another world. "I think about this cosmic other planet where it's all happy and beautiful and it's so perfect and cosmic, it brings you to another level in music. That's where it's all going on, everything is one and in tune and there, there, there."

Brandon thinks of a phantom place. "It's directly through the core of the Earth, on the other side of the planet. It's a party and it's happenin', but it's a phantom party. It never happened but it's still there. It's a celebration, without a specific location."

The talented pipes of soloist Helen Straus would defrost even the most bitterest of Scrooges into a lover of jolly St. Nick. Accompanying her was Josh Winslow on the tenor saxophone. "I really had to match my solo with her vocal parts to make everything flow along. I have to have the melody in my mind yet bring it to my own degree. We both influence each other, its pow-

with a slide show, featuring all of the precious moments of the fall season. "The culmination of the evening was the slide

erful, notes and rhythm flow and weave in between us. It's like a cross mojonation."

Nearing the end Winslow's mantra took full force. "You've got to feel and massage each beat, each note, each delicate sound like it was the band's life rhythm." Suddenly, out of every golden sax and lacquered clarinet would erupt a pop and explosion as if it were December 31, 1999, and our country was busy dancing and hopping its way into the new millennium.

The show ended in an eruption of applause that floated the merry and proud hearts of the band away in its frothy wake. Tomorrow the cafeteria will be filled with the noisy clutter of school children, but tonight belonged to them.

During lunch, with enough concentration, one can hear their harmonious music still echoing from concerts past. And with a flick of the baton, the band will strike up and again fill the community with the beautiful sounds of Mozart floating through the cool December night.

show, it was inspiring, as well as entertaining," said soccer player David Cohen.

Scheduling

Mehrun Etabari

MOR Reporter

that blocking is very advantageous for disciplines such as English, Social Studies, Science, and Art. A prolonged period would allow more time for group debate and discussion, lab activities, and large in-class projects. However, the task force has found that some disciplines such as Math and Foreign Language seemed to prefer shorter classes that meet every day to ease learning and comprehension. "There is a debate at all of those schools whether it is best to cover larger amounts of material or to limit the material somewhat in the favor of in-depth studies," says Ms. Smith.

The debate is also harvesting opinions among ORHS students. Many believe that we should keep our scheduling system the way it is now. "It's hard to keep your attention in one place for more than an hour, and to come back and start up again after a day off," says Junior Chris McClain. Sophomore Jenn Pazdon agrees. "Variety is good in the day," she says. On the other side of the issue, many students believe we should make the switch to the block system. "Less classes each day means less homework each night," says an anonymous Sophomore male.

Despite the research already conducted by the task force, their job is far from over. A senate forum, much like the

one held for the grading system, will be held January 7. There, a questionnaires will be distributed to every student. Also, a parent questionnaire may be distributed. In addition, the task force will look at the staffing and financial considerations of a new schedule. After studying all the information they will have received, the task force will make their recommendations to the faculty and administration at the end of January. The final decision will rest with the faculty and administration, and although a change to full block scheduling would likely take more than a year, a limited scheduling change could be in effect by Fall 1998.

The task force is looking into more options than just a full block system. They are also studying the merits of a hybrid system, in which some class periods would be blocked while others are not. This would allow longer periods for classes like art and shorter periods for classes like math, but this system is very complicated and "a scheduling nightmare," says Ms. Smith.

The possibility also exists for a system in which classes would be blocked for only two days a week. However, according to Ms. Smith, the task force has ruled out recommending the system currently in place at Portsmouth High School. There, students take about four classes a semester which meet for long periods every day. This makes the students complete a one-year class in half a year.



From the McDonald's of
Lee, Epping & Raymond

On The Spot

What Is Your Holiday Wish?



"To have some friends"
-Dave White

"To be able to celebrate with my friends and family in Sweden and all of my friends here at the same time."

-Erika Sjoling



"To have all the apples in the world!"
Emma Weisman

"To solve all of my friends problems."

- Kristen Cosby



Horoscope

Sarah Coyne & Laurie Kraft
MOR Staff

Capricorn- You will achieve great success due to a minor change in your outlook on life. Lucky days: 25, 27 6
Aquarius- Take advantage of opportunities and try new things that may come your way. Lucky days: 9, 4, 24
Pisces- Luck in definitely in store for you in the upcoming weeks. Lucky days: 21, 1, 9
Aries- Your positive leadership skills can prove to be rewarding. Lucky days: 3, 30, 17
Taurus- Do not try and outwit your families and others around you. Lucky days: 9, 18, 27
Gemini- Don't let some hair spoil your dinner.
Cancer- We see gifts a plenty in your future, maybe a little fruitcake also. Lucky days:

19, 25, 27.

Leo- King of the Jungle? I think not. Get off your high horse and realize other's opinions are just as good as your own. Lucky days: 1, 9, 12.

Virgo- You are the master of your own destiny. Don't let others pressure you or push you around. What you do now can affect you in the future. Lucky days: 4, 6, 17.
Libra- Things are looking a little rocky for you now. Make sure you re-evaluate the people that are important to you and let them know how special they are. Lucky days: 2, 17, 21.

Scorpio- If a friend left you for a vacation things aren't going well. Lucky days: 22, 9, 11.

Sagittarius- Don't worry about deciding what to do with your life right away. Lucky days: 22, 28, 31. ●

Goin' Down to South Park, Gonna Have Myself a Time

Rich Reynolds

MOR Staff

South Park was born in December of 1995 when a Fox TV executive paid two broke animators to make a cartoon where Jesus Christ and Santa Claus Kung-fu fight each other, called "The Spirit of Christmas". The TV executive then sent tapes all over Hollywood. Bootlegs were quickly produced, and spread throughout the country.

The creators of this cartoon, Matt Stone and Trey Parker, turned down offers from nearly every major studio before accepting Comedy Central's offer. What started out as a fairy tale animated with construction paper is now known as South Park, and is one of the most popular comedies in the country.

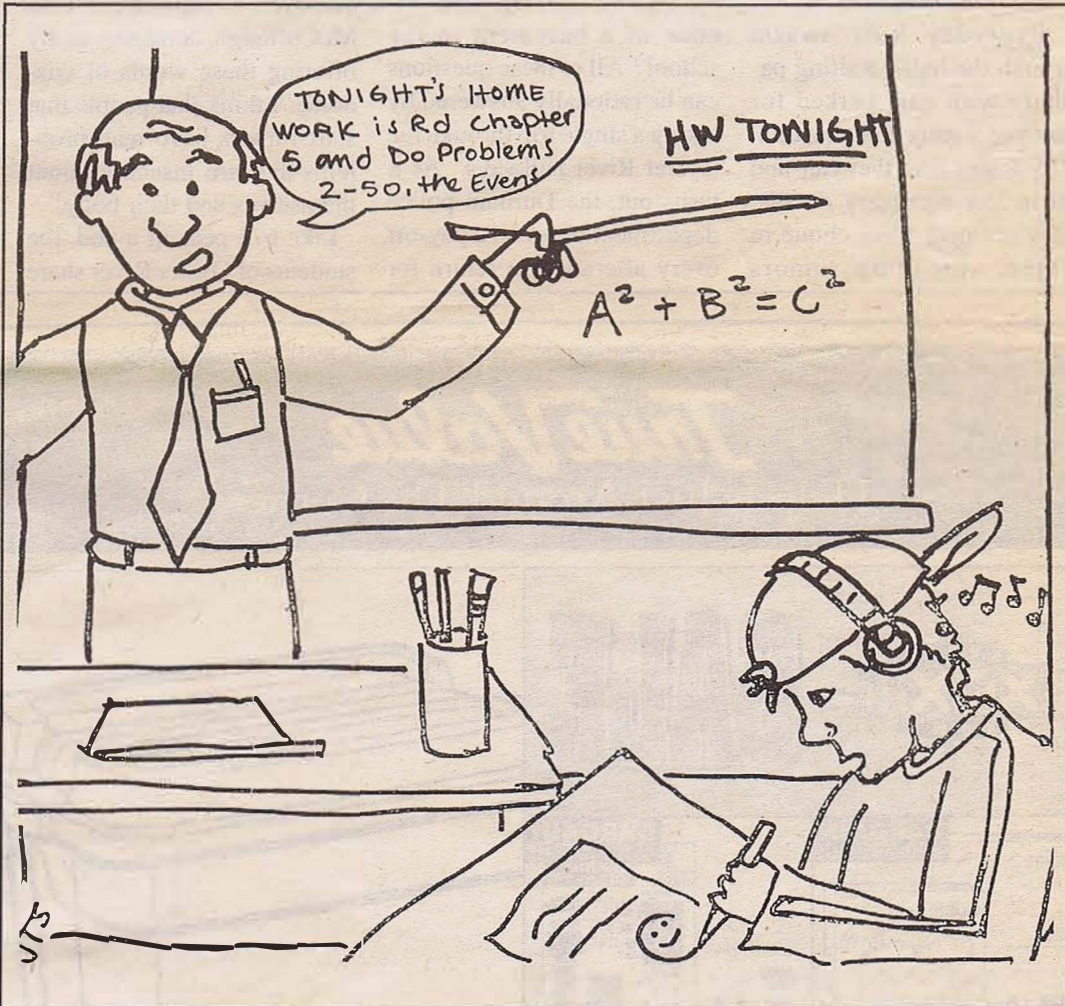
This show has four main characters; Cartman, Stan, Kyle, and Kenny. These animated youngsters will surprise you with their colorful vocabulary. There are also many other characters that people will like. Chef, for instance, is many people's favorite. He gets all the women, and usually starts singing like Barry White.

Many of this show's episodes seem to have a moral message behind them. For example: the episode where Stan's grandfather wants Stan to kill him reflects the ongoing controversy in this country over assisted suicide. An other example is the episode where the mutant turkeys and the people of South Park go to war. In the end, Starvin' Marvin (the little Ethiopian kid) got to take all of the tur-

key meat home to his starving family.

Although most people probably enjoy South Park, and find it to be one of the most entertaining shows on TV, there is still some people who don't agree. Ray Celantano commented that "I've only seen a couple of shows, but based on what I've seen, it's approach towards humor is quite juvenile. That may explain it's popularity." However, most people don't share these sentiments. In a class of 16 students, only one individual said that they had never seen the show.

It is hard to say what the future holds in store for South Park, but if you would like to watch it, it is on Comedy Central on Wednesdays and Saturdays at 10pm and on Sunday mornings at 2am.



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The Oyster Rumor Exposed

Kevin Pemberton
MOR Staff

Do you remember back in elementary school when all of the kids would play the telephone game? They'd all gather in a circle and laugh at a whispered phrase that started out as "Mary had a little lamb" and ended as "Mary's fat and spits on lambs." It appears some things never lose their novelty.

Giggling at misunderstood phrases has now been replaced by the bizarre interpretation of some student's weekend tale, and its circulation throughout the school. The story that started out in Senior Hall as "Billy's visit to Granny" not uncommonly ends up in Freshmen Hall as "Billy blew his Grandmother away with a shotgun and was committed to a mental institute."

Everyday kids swarm through the halls, waiting patiently with ears perked for traces of a stray conversation. They gather what they can, and fill in any necessary details. They scamper from clique to clique, spreading rumors

throughout the school. Watching, one can't help being reminded of all those nature documentaries we watched in Biology. Every time a freshman scampers down the hall with those beady little eyes, one can't help wondering how many more are lurking in the dark.

While running the gauntlet of swinging oversized backpacks and pot bellies protruding from irresponsibly worn tank tops, anyone and everyone can pick up the latest gossip. Ever wonder about the police cars parked outside the school every day? What about the hidden agenda of the infamous Freshmen Hall craps players? What are the secrets of the Freshmen whose computer monitors shut off every time a teacher walks by? Why is there a cover up in effect by the faculty, denying the existence of a basement in the school? All of these questions can be rationally answered by taking a single trip through the Oyster River hallways. As it turns out, the Durham police department picks up a pay-off every afternoon in return for

their silence regarding the Oyster River Pornography Stop and Casino.

Located in the depths of the school's basement, access to the pornography complex is limited to a secret panel in the back of an unused locker. The Class of 2001 operates the Pornography Ring through the use of the library's access to the internet, downloading the necessary "goods" during their lunch and free periods. The Casino is run by the "Freshmen Hall Craps Players", who are also members of the class of 2001. They can be spotted during their free periods practicing their profession by the water fountain in their hometown hall.

The congregation of students everyday in the halls, feeding off of other people's lives as if to keep holy some twisted Sabbath, has yet to be explained. Although a reason regarding this phenomenon has yet to be discovered, sophomore Don McCullough comforts us by offering these words of wisdom: "I think that people that start rumors have mad problems and are insecure about themselves and their body."

Like 673 peas in a pod, the students of Oyster River share

the good and bad times of their lives. Apparently, whether or not the good or bad time in question is still the same event it was when it reaches the other side of the pod doesn't matter. "Never believe a word you hear at OR," says junior Cheryl Humphrey. "'99% of the time, it's just a rumor."

"I think that people worry too much about other people's business," says senior Eben

Dorr. "If they just kept to themselves, the school would be a lot more productive" Mr. Dorr's words are indeed inspirational, but will lose their meaning when your friend interrupts you reading this article to tell you about Jane's latest fling. Maybe the next time the kids at the elementary school decide to play the telephone game, we should bring them up here to the high school and show them how it's done.

A Screaming Good Time
"Scream 2" ReviewDon McCullough
Mor Staff

AHHHH! The crowd shouts and screams at the movie screen as hollers of "Look out behind you!" and "Run away!" burst out from people's terrified lips. With a few laughs and giggles, the opening night of *Scream 2* came around.

At Hoyts Cinema in Newington, NH, a line started to form at the ticket booth as workers had to sadly tell the disappointed customers that the sequel of *Scream* is all sold out for the evening. People that did get in to the movie like myself could only get in by one way and that was by calling ahead and reserving tickets. Judging by the size of the crowd, this was a movie of high expectations.

It was so crammed in the theater we were fortunate to find seats next to each other. As the lights dimmed and the previews passed, all the throwing of popcorn and starburst wrappers died down and excitement filled the air. Everybody was wondering how anything could ever compare to Wes Craven's masterpiece of the original *Scream*. Well, here's something that most people would not dare to say. Everyone's question was soon answered as *Scream 2* went above and

beyond it's duty of scaring the holy ghost out of everybody. It surpassed the first.

Now this shouldn't be right. Sequels can't do that. Or can they? This movie sure proved that they could. The plot of the movie was even more creative than the first, and as the movie progressed everybody was a suspect. Who could the killer be? It could be anybody- even the dumb witted deputy Dewy. As fingers were pointed the story continued to progress. Would all your favorite characters from the original stay alive to see the killer? Who knows?

Don't worry for all the people who aren't die hard fans of blood and gore. The occasional bit of comedic relief is included for the weak of heart. (or stomach.)

A couple of years after the first killings a story was printed by the always loved reporter Gail Weathers. This book was adapted to a movie which depicted the events of the original *Scream*. This creative little twist added an eerie sense of reality to the story.

The movie credits rolled and people got up and left. When we turned the corner there was a huge line leading to the theater. Not to the movie *Flubber* or *Mortal Kombat: Annihilation*, but to see the brilliant mastermind project of Wes Craven. People were talking about this movie for months before it came out, and it met the so very high standards of everybody.

This movie was given 5 out of 5 stars by me for the quality of the plot, the characters, and for coming through as one of the greatest sequels as our time.

The 1997-1998 Editorial Staff

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Supervisor

MOR

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Surfing the Sludge

Why kids are *really* on the internet...

Devin Foxall &
Dylan Brown
MOR Editors

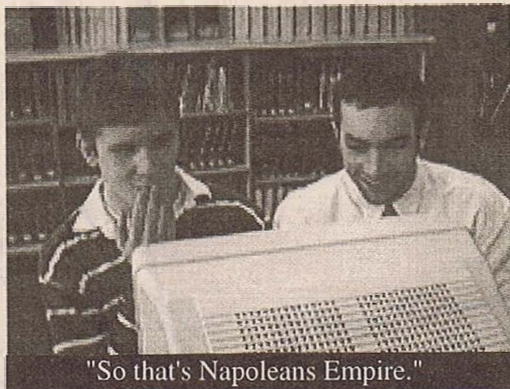
An interesting thing happened to me yesterday, in the library. I was waiting for the computer while a young buck of a freshman, with well developed forearms, was busily hacking away at the keyboard. "Ummm.... are you almost done?" I asked in my most friendly of voices. He must have been an Alabama fan because his face turned the color of crimson tide. With a flustered look he exclaimed "Sorry, but I just can't tear myself away from the keyboard."

"Oh" I said with a cool dry twinge of sarcasm. Immediately I rushed into the bathroom to throw up, fully aware of the uncanny phenomenon that has slithered its way into our once innocent and virgin library. Initially computers and the internet were installed to aid in the growth of a child's mind, but now a new type of growth has been popping up.

The children of America have found a new way to pollute themselves since the dawn of the internet. Not by looking up such trivial facts as Gary Coleman's height or Mr. Belvedere's weight, but by spelunking for something a bit more adult.

As if in a hunt for the holy grail, kids want to learn everything about a little word beginning with "s" and rhyming with chex. Catch my drift?

In the same way that the Trojan horse was given easy access, the internet was first per-



ceived as an unexpected gift. But once night fell, seemingly endless demons raced out and started wrecking havoc on the fragile adolescent mind. These demons carried with them such names as Dr. Easy Pants,

"The internet was first received as an unexpected gift"...

Busty Betty and Dirk Diggler.

With experience, students become more adapt at avoiding detection. An entire class could be dedicated to teaching their crafty ways of avoiding the librarian's gasp of disgust. Quickly shutting off the monitor and pretending the power

went out is always a winner. Another technique that deserves recognition is to pretend that you were looking for something completely different. Some of the more original lines have been:

"I was still confused about that one question on the TAP survey. Mutual... what was it?? Stimulation?"

"My chem. project is on lubricants, honest."

"I'm looking into ordering a wife from Russia."

Or my personal favorite: "I meant to type in 'Napoleon's empire' but accidentally typed

"hot sex."

This has been going on for too long, I've reached my climax of anger. No longer will I wait around for some sexually repressed freshman to get his cheap thrills off a library computer screen, while I wait bitterly in the background. As a dedicated student, I have countless projects and assignments that require me to use the internet as a productive tool, and not as my silicon girlfriend.

By now you must have figured out that I've got a big bone to pick with these underdeveloped underclassmen. Hopefully I've gotten my point across, for my busy schedule has caught up with me and I'm starting to go blind. Besides, I still need to do my report.

Another "TAP" Survey That Doesn't Hold Water

Brian Taylor
Mor Staff

What's the deal with bottled water? Lately, it seems to me that about 50% of the female population of Oyster River High School cannot be seen without their little bottle of Poland Spring (or whatever kind it is) water by their side. WHY? Somebody please inform me of a vital piece of information that I seem to be missing.

First of all, let me get the point out that I am in no way against the drinking of water or against water in anyway. I am however, against the people who continually go to the store to *purchase* water that is in a bottle. I am also against the people in our own school and community who don't seem to realize that you don't have to buy extra water when we have our own *secret* source. I probably shouldn't be letting this out of the bag, but guess what people, there are certain designated spots around the school and your home where you can obtain this substance known as water for *free*. Yes, that's right, free. It's known as water from your tap or the water fountain.

Now picture this. Say that one day Mary takes a thermos from home and brings it to school. She heads directly to the water fountain and proceeds to fill her thermos. Congratulations, Mary just saved herself \$1.00 each time she completes this rather rare transaction. Think about this

for a moment. If the average bottled water drinker drinks two bottles a day for a week, that's almost \$15.00 going to waste every week. That's amazingly about \$780 a year spent on water. \$3120 gone to waste in a typical high school career.

Since I'm so open minded about this subject, let's look at the most common argument proposed by the bottled water drinker when confronted with this sensitive issue. Everytime I get the same response, "Bottled water is so much better quality and it tastes better too." Give me a break. There have been numerous studies done that prove that bottled water is no better for you than tap water. Let's look at yet another side to this never ending insanity. If there has to be one excuse to drinking bottled water that has to be the most idiotic excuse ever, it has to be the one when they say, "It's in this easy to open and re-sealable bottle." As far as I know, any take home reusable thermos does the same job. If I'm going to be spending \$1.00 a pop for each time I want a re-sealable and easy to open bottle, it had better say Coca-Cola Classic in big letters on the side.

Before I finish, I have one final question. If the tap at your home or the water fountain at your school suddenly switched to dispensing orange juice, would you be making runs to the store for it? I didn't think so.

Water, Water Everywhere and Not a Drop to Drink

Erin Carter
MOR Staff

You know the feeling, admit it, the white slime that gathers on your tongue and swarms your throat. Cotton mouth, the thick kind that causes your tongue to become permanently stuck to the roof of your mouth. So what is your first impulse after hinting this distress after gym class or during practice? Of course like any human, you would find a water source. Technology has created an accessible thirst quenching system that requires for you to only bend over and push a quite large and obvious button. Oyster River has caught hold of the trend and installed water fountains in their hallways. Just when you thought you were saved and you use your last bit of energy to push down on that button you remember that Oyster River has

failed to activate that water—go figure.

A little droplet trickles out slowly. You go to lap the small puddle then notice the glob of pre-chewed gum inches from your own mouth. Tempting? I don't think so. In anger you rip off the spout, protesting to the idiosyncrasies of the school and your own greediness; if your going to have to survive the wrath of cotton mouth EVERYBODY WILL HAVE TO. Have you been wondering where those spouts went? It was the average student, maybe even the high honors student, who like any sane person suffering the burning sensation that surrounds their mouth after a bag of salt and vinegar potato chips, who just wants a drink of water.

The world is mostly water. Your own body is 97% water but Oyster River school, now accredited, cannot get a work-

ing water fountain.

In the middle of class, do you hear a familiar smacking

"The world is mostly water. Your own body is 97% water but Oyster River school, now accredited, cannot get a working water fountain."

The English teacher glares back, heads turn, a weak arms sores like a white flag in surrender. A pathetically quiet voice begs, "can I get a drink of...water?" Recalcitrant, the teacher excuses the student, realizing that the water fountain is five feet from the door. She reminds him to hurry back so not to miss the last part of

the test. The student returns fifteen minutes later. When prosecuted, the student can only reply the truth—that they had to walk to the other end of the other hallway to find a working water fountain.

How about faucets? They are unworkable also. People need to wash their hands for various reasons, some we don't even want to know about. For example: you friend had

scribbled on your left hand the name of your crush, with a heart around it, during trig. During lunch your lover-boy asks to sit to the seat left of you. You remember the obsessive evidence on your left hand as mustard from your sandwich streaks down your arm. In urgency you run to the bathroom, you ~~slather~~ your hand in

soap and scrub away the artwork. A rush of relief comes now that the evidence is gone, you go to the faucets to wash away the blue soap. You turn the handle, empty. You rush to the next one, turn it, nothing. You continue down the line, you realize in despair that the water in the sinks, like the water fountains, has been wrongly activated. You sprint upstairs to find one working faucet out of the six. The lunch bell rings, you are left with a hungry stomach and an aching heart.

Boots and shoes of hundreds of Oyster River feet trudge in snow, slush and ice, puddles gather on the floor and the war versus custodians has the winter well in the lead. Consider the possibility of forgetting the worthless sinks completely, squatting and rinsing you hands in snow excretion of your fellow students who care more about your hygiene then the administration.

"Dost thou love life? then do not squander time, for that is the stuff life is made of."
-Benjamin Franklin

School

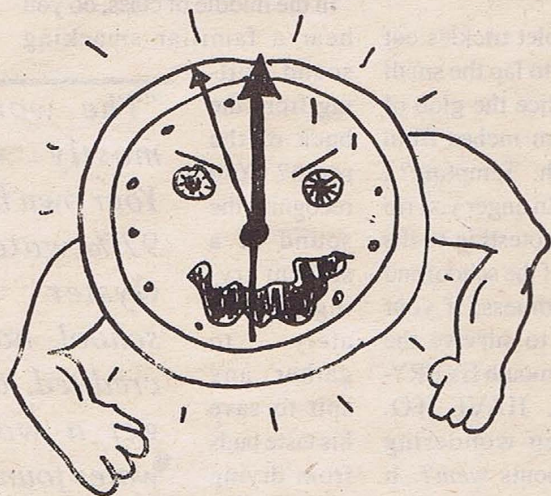
Almost half of teenagers waking hours are spent in school. Half of each precious day is spent in classrooms, immersed in the pursuit of knowledge. Is it possible for this time spent in classrooms to be enjoyable? According to a 1997 Roper Youth Report, 67% of all kids look forward to going to school. Do you think of school as an enjoyable experience? Could you? thirty-five hours out of every week pass while the community of Oyster River strives to learn. For four years, High School is teenagers primary focus in life. Can you think of the last instance in school when you had an enjoyable moment of time?

"You are eternity's hostage,
A captive of time."
-Boris Pasternak

Activities

Oyster River offers a variety of activities for enterprising students. From Senate to the race diversity unity club, many experiences are offered to the students of OR. The downside, as always, is that each activity takes time.

Emma Weisman, a freshman in Romeo and Juliet, felt that her part in the play impacted her time "very, very much." She said that she had to stay up later, and it seemed to her "like I had more homework and less time." However, Emma made it very clear that her experiences were worth time they took. "It was a great experience" she said.



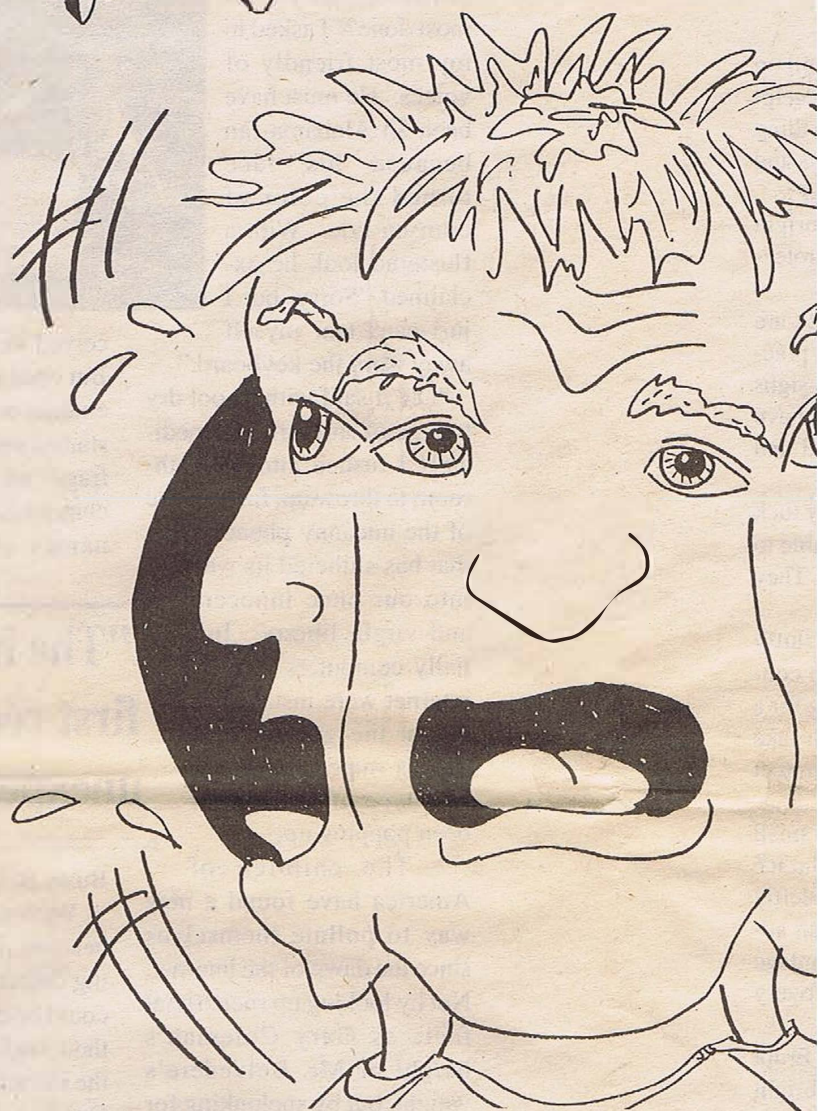
What does time mean to you?

"Something we don't have anymore" Kate Nichols

"It always goes by too fast" Luke Dubois

"Valuable" Shannon Kelly

Do you have time



Are the students at Oyster River High School

Are these kids crumbling beneath the weight of the work load, tearing up their hair over curricular activities?

These questions are tough to answer, because not all students work hard, and not all care about these types of problems. People bow down to everyday pressures and in different situations.

Once a student gets through their freshman year, stress becomes a reality. Everyone knows how it feels when you have two tests, one project, due the next day, and you don't have enough time to do it because of lack of sleep. Many people wish there were more hours in the day.

"There's not enough time in the day because you have to balance family time, talking on the phone, and sleep, which is the last thing I do," commented, junior, Shannon Kelly.

After a recent survey of a sample population of the school shows that students at Oyster River are far from stress free. On a scale from 1 and 5 being "stressed to the point of feeling sick" the average was 3.2.

Aaron Barry, a junior, said that he was tired lately because of the lack of sleep for a solution to his problem, he said that teachers should "give 10-15 minutes of the period to get work done."

This suggestion probably won't fly with most teachers, so what do you do to escape stress?

Mrs. Perry said that each teacher should assign one half hour of class time for students to do whatever they want. She did realize that it does take some students longer to do the work, but she suggested on how to keep away from stressful situation Perry commented, "If you are good, get the work done on time so it doesn't work up." Mrs. Perry also gave plenty of warning by making month long homework calendars. People should take "A lot of stress you bring to yourself."

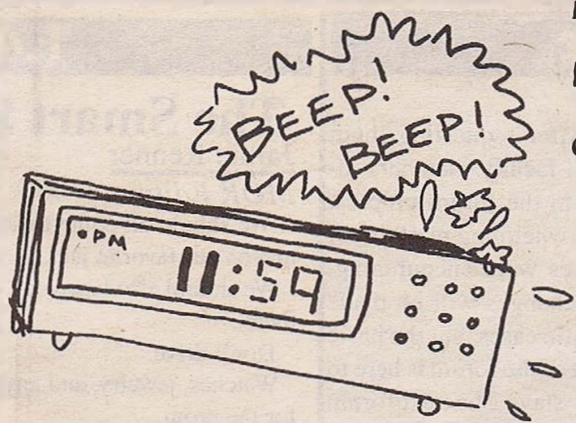
A sophomore, Meredith McNally commented "I feel stressed, but I don't think teachers should pile on work at the end of a quarter."

On average an Oyster River student has 2.44 hours of homework a week. It is interesting to see that a student with an A average has 2.58 hours of homework a week, while a student with a C average has 1.92.

So it does pay off if you spend more time on your homework. People have different ways of dealing with their stress. Some responses to this question on the survey were: hit things, listen to music, and play sports. Unfortunately some people responded that they use alcohol to escape reality.

In the survey students were also asked to rate how much they like school. On a scale between 1-10, 10 being "I love school", and 1 being "I hate school" taking this survey that the average O.R. student doesn't really like school. The average rating was 4.41. The average for an A student was 4.84 and the average for a C student was 3.33. People with lower grades seem to dislike school more than the

Have Time?



"Every year is getting shorter,
never seem to find the time
Plans that either come to nought,
or half a page of scribbled lines"

-Pink Floyd

Sports

Over 60% of Oyster River students take part in at least one season of school sponsored sports. Most sports teams practice every school day, and have games or meets at least once a week. Taking part in sports requires a lot of teenager's time. However, Dave Nichols, OR athletic director, feels that being on a sports team "teaches athletes time management skills." He adds that "most athletes do better in school during their seasons."

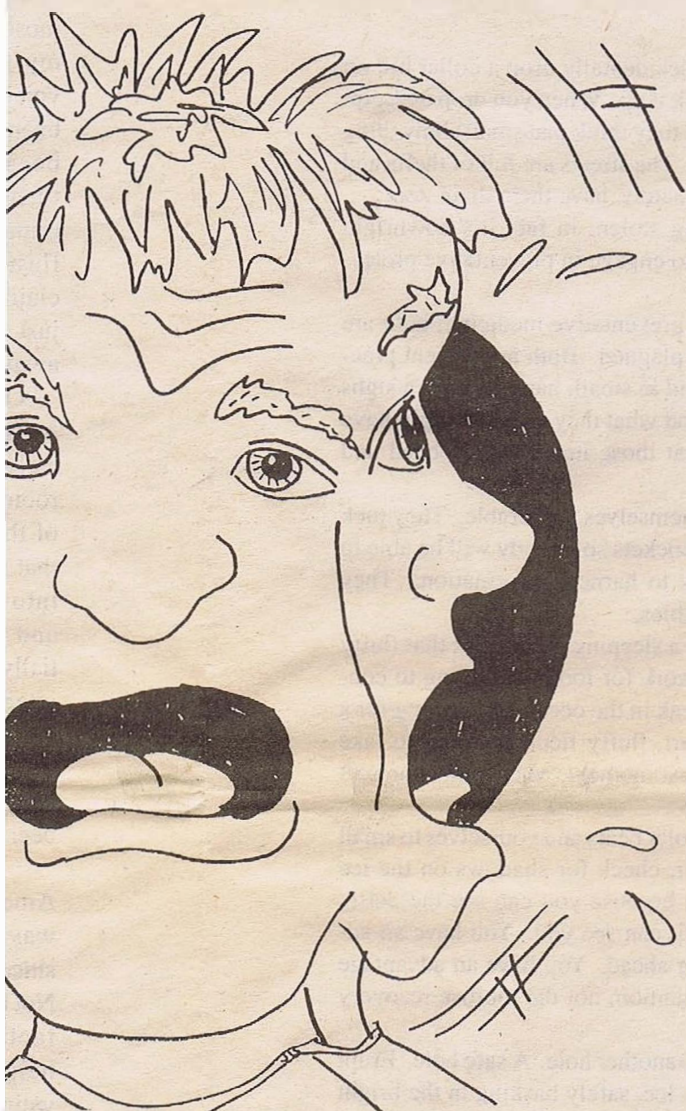
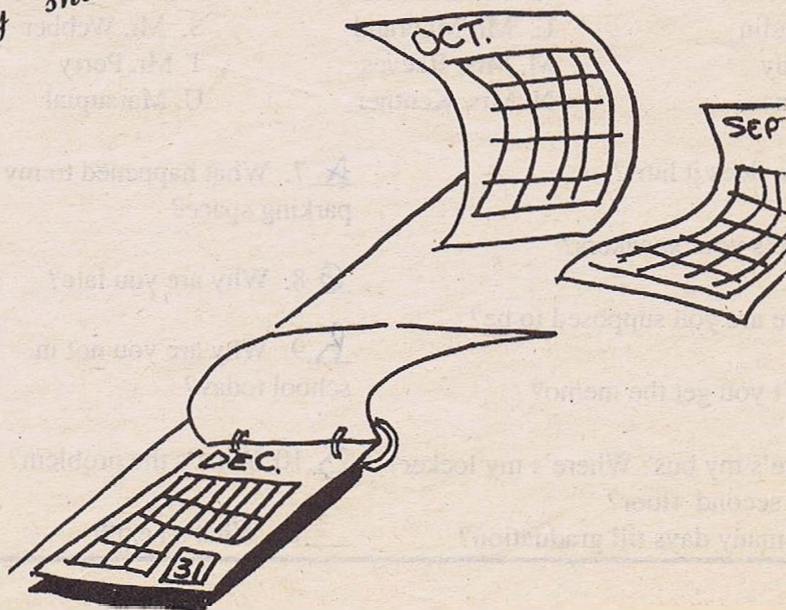
Jennie Mengers-O'Brien, a senior three sport athlete, commented that "you would think that sports would negatively impact school, but when you are not playing you feel like you have tons of time, so you goof off, and don't get your work done." Emily Bonnocorsi, another senior athlete, agrees that, "When I'm doing sports I do better because I focus."

"You can ask me for anything you like, except time." -Napoleon I

Work

For many students at Oyster River High School, school is not their only job. A large percentage of students work in locations as varied as Durham Marketplace and the GAP. Students have jobs for a number of reasons, including a need to help the family, a desire to have spending money, or the need to pay for gas and other car expenses. Jobs impact teen's time greatly, often limiting the amount of extracurricular activities that they can participate in. Lindsay Thompson, a junior who works at the GAP, commented "working is difficult, especially during the holiday season. It takes up time that I would usually have to myself." She also noted, however that "It is great to have the money."

"Our time is a very shadow that patheth away."
-Proverbs



Oyster River High School pressed too hard?
the weight of the work load, team sports and other extra-

curricular activities, because not all students work at the same pace, or even
. People bow down to everyday pressure at different times

in freshman year, stress becomes a part of everyday life.
If you have two tests, one project, and all your homework
do you have enough time to do it because of a sport or play practice.
24 hours in the day.

Every day because you have to balance everything, homework,
and sleep, which is the last thing that is valued on my list,"

A survey of the population of the school shows that it is evident that the
population is not stress free. On a scale from 1-5, 1 being "stress free",
5 being "feeling sick" the average was 3.3.

Students were tired lately because of the work load. When asked
what they should do, teachers should "give 10-15 minutes at the end of

the day with most teachers, so what do teachers suggest as ways

to reduce stress? Teachers should assign one half hour of homework per night, but
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STUDENT SENATE UPDATE

GREGORY EVANS
Senate Moderator

Ah, vacation: a time to relax, spend time with family, and become angry over the fact that the high school is on probation from the NEASC. What? That's right, probation. Why? You guessed it, space needs. We're not talking about NASA here, folks. We're talking about perilous walks through the hallways, the lack of doors on bathroom stalls, and the ever-present CO2 violations, not to mention a shortage of classrooms.

Recently the Senate passed resolution 101 which expresses the view of the Senate concerning the proposed changes to the high school. The resolution is printed here. Please take a moment to read it. It passed with a vote of thirty-six to zero on December first.

"We, the Oyster River high School Senate, hereby endorse the plan in its entirety, for the high school renovations and expansion as proposed by the Oyster River Cooperative

School District Board. In order for the high school to meet the needs of its students, it is necessary to maintain a facility that can accommodate the growing student population and provide a safe, comfortable, and fair learning environ-

ment. We have arrived at the same conclusion as the New England Association of Schools and Colleges—the Oyster River High School will soon become unable to maintain its high standard of education with the existing physical condition of its campus." In other Senate news, the new Senate forums received a warm welcome from the faculty. After requesting input from all faculty members involved in the forum process, the overwhelming majority of responses were encouraging. A few changes will be made to specific cases, but the basic concept of the forum is here to stay. The next forum will be on January seventh. The topic is alternative scheduling options for ORHS in future years. As always, this is also an opportunity to discuss student concerns. If time allows, and you feel strongly concerning any Senate issue, please let your forum senator know.

Other issues addressed by the Senate included a proposed ban on personal stereo devices. No final action has been taken. The Senate and the faculty both will have input in late January

before any decision is made. Again, if you feel strongly about this issue, let your senators know.

The Senate's next meeting is on January 15. As always, our meetings are open to all students and faculty. There are no refreshments or door prizes, but input is always welcome. I hope to see you then, and have a great vacation.

"Ah, vacation: a time to relax, spend time with family, and become angry over the fact that the high school is on probation from the NEASC. What? That's right, probation. Why?..."

Your Senators meet on the first Monday and third Thursday of every month. You are welcome to come to the meetings!

Editorial

The Smart Seal's Advantage

Jamie Renner

MOR Editor

We should all come to school wearing only paper bags. Then maybe our favorite jackets wouldn't get stolen.

We should also leave our wallets at home. They would be safer there.

Don't drive.

Watches, jewelry, and anything that wasn't bought at Zylas save for the prom.

As a matter of fact don't leave your house, don't buy anything, and simply sit naked meditating on your hemp-woven rug. Then you will have no fear of vandalism or larceny. You will be as content as a cow.

Or a small sheep.

"The Real World:" When you accidentally drop a dollar bill on the street, someone is going to pick it up. When you drop a receipt someone may pick it up, too—lest they think that small shiny thing couldn't possibly be a Gold Card. The streets are full of thefts and the halls of Oyster River, unfortunately, have their share, too.

It's not fun to have something stolen; in fact it's downright phooey. But a way to avoid it is to engage in preventative protection.

Preventative protection is like preventative medicine; both are curing the victim before they are plagued. Both are ancient practices whose results have burgeoned in small, happy, random sighs of relief over the globe; people find what they thought might have been stolen, but then realized that those items were locked and safe.

Usually, humans do not make themselves vulnerable. They tuck their pride deep into their soul's pockets so nobody will be able to touch it. They selectively speak to harness information. They lock house doors to protect valuables.

There's something serene about a sleeping polar bear; that fluffy energy miser just isn't going to work for food. It's going to conserve energy and just rest by a break in the ocean ice, waiting for a seal to surface for air. The smart, fluffy fiend is going to take advantage of the seal at its weakest moment, when it can't protect itself, when it is most vulnerable.

Compare hallway swigglers to polar bears and yourselves to small seals. Before you surface for air, check for shadows on the ice surface. You have an advantage because you can see the deftly waiting fuzz-robber long before it can see you. You have an advantage because you are thinking ahead. You have an advantage because you are focused on prevention, not the morose recovery of an brisk attack.

Flap your sea-wings and glide to another hole. A safe hole. Erupt from the water and slide onto the ice, safely basking in the bright bronze sunlight. Put a lock on your locker. Then you can enjoy the afternoon without hesitation.

Who's Question?

A certain question is often associated with each person listed below.

Match the person to the question. Cut out and submit to MOR. A gift certificate to DHOP will be awarded to the winner. If more than one submission has all correct answers, the winner will be drawn by lot from the correct submissions.

- A. sophomores
- B. seniors
- C. freshmen
- D. juniors
- E. Mrs. Geeslin
- F. Mrs. Hardy
- G. Mr. Cairns

- H. Mrs. Langley
- I. Mr. O'Malley
- J. Mr. Lane
- K. Mr. LaForce
- L. Mr. Mayrand
- M. Mrs. Reeves
- N. Mrs. Kentner

- O. Ms. Archambeault
- P. Holly Gahm
- Q. Mr. Maynard
- R. Mrs. Grondin
- S. Mr. Webber
- T. Mr. Perry
- U. Marsupial

- V. Brett Wier
- W. Janitor
- X. Senior males
- Y. Benches
- Z. Caf ceiling

L 1. Where does it hurt?

Q 2. Where's your sneakers?

I 3. Where are you supposed to be?

AK 4. Didn't you get the memo?

C 5. Where's my bus? Where's my locker? Where's the second floor?

B 6. How many days till graduation?

A 7. What happened to my parking space?

E 8. Why are you late?

R 9. Why are you not in school today?

S 10. What's the problem?

___ 11. What's next?!

___ 12. Which key?

___ 13. I have the key?

___ 14. Who stole my chalk?

___ 15. What's not working?

___ 16. Where's your money?

___ 17. Where's your application?

___ 18. Where is that game?

___ 19. Where's that book?

___ 20. Where's my pouch?

___ 21. Wanna measure my biceps?

___ 22. Won't you stay off the roof?

___ 23. Why is that bathroom door locked?

___ 24. Where will I be?

___ 25. How colorful am I?

U 26. Wanna bet on whose pouch is warmer?

????

Faculty Forum

Richard Tappan

A new definition of Smart...



Everyone has heard of the I.Q., the "intelligence quotient"—that magic number that supposedly declares a person to have a certain mental ability measured in points. Jane might look at her results, an I.Q. of 120, and declare herself to be five points smarter than her brother Jeff who has a 115 I.Q.

Sometimes students can develop low self-esteem by merely hearing this magic number. "I'm only a 100 I.Q. Average. Run of the mill. I guess I shouldn't expect much of myself." If the student stops making a serious effort, grows silent in class discussions, and makes way for his or her faster-moving friends, the I.Q.

number becomes a self-fulfilling prophecy.

This is the danger of misunderstanding standardized tests or of taking them too seriously. Most educators with a little experience with students realize that attitude can bring about amazing results in students whose potential—according to a simple I.Q. score—may have seemed rather limited.

Only two years ago a book came out that has confirmed what common sense has told good teachers long ago. The book, *Emotional Intelligence* by Daniel Goleman declared that it is a person's emotional intelligence more than the raw intellectual ability that is the best indicator of a person's success in life.

A person who can control his or her temper, listen, see things from another person's

point of view, is far more likely to use his or her brainpower for the good. Those around us who fly into rages over small disagreements, or who strike out violently and regret it later have low emotional intelligence. They have not developed the skills of working through confrontations constructively. The boy who shot his classmates in Kentucky had little ability to express his feelings in a way that would defuse his anger. Cases of domestic abuse and road rage are also signs of low emotional intelligence.

Our E.Q., just like our I.Q., can improve if we give it some training and positive experiences. When a child who is angry or hurt is merely silenced by the greater force of an adult authority figure, he or she doesn't learn how to work

out the problem. The child yearns for power over others so he can get back at the world

"Emotional intelligence...the most important factor in the development of healthy individuals and a civil society."

for the pain he feels. Eventually any weaker target satisfies the need for revenge.

Our society has been doing a poor job at developing young people's E.Q. So many young

people don't have meaningful conversations over dinner with their parents. Neglected or bullied, they see in video games, movies and T.V. thousands of examples of people who lash out and settle scores with explosive action. Such patterns of behavior are hard to change; they demand immense patience to help others who have none.

As a book reviewer said of *Emotional Intelligence*, it gives us "an entirely new way of looking at the root causes of many of the ills of our families and our society."

I believe that schools need to prepare teachers more and more to nurture the emotional intelligence of their students as the most important factor in the development of healthy individuals and a civil society.

The "Faculty Forum" and "Student Opinion" sections of this paper were created to offer the faculty and students a place to speak, in written words, to the rest of the OR community. Each issue will bring two new commentators. If you are interested in contributing, please see any editor.

Student Opinion

Stealing Dampens Holiday Spirit



Lauren Penna
Guest commentator

Walking down the hallway, there are various signs asking for our help during the holiday. At Oyster River, a large majority of the students have either decided to participate in the Holiday Helpers program, gift wrapping, or food drives. However, there are some that have missed the aspect of giving to others during the holiday. Instead of giving they are taking, in other words, stealing.

As I continue walking down the hall, I recall a quote that apparently a minority in our school has not heard of: "It is more blessed to give than to receive."

The average student spends about thirty hours a week at school. It would seem safe to

say that school is our home away from home—simply because we spend so much time here, not necessarily because we enjoy it. Since it is like our second home, it would be nice if we treated it like our home and family. Follow the virtues that many of us have been taught from day one: Don't lie, don't talk back—

And don't steal.

This brings me to the core of the problem. At Oyster River the percentage of kleptomaniacs is on the rise. Freshman year, I recall various complaints about people having objects stolen, but it was never something that was a constant issue. Yet for the past year and a half, a week doesn't go by without hearing that someone's lunch or sports equipment of some sort has been stolen. I am curious as to why, people need to be so dishonest and

steal someone else's possessions. I am a victim of having various belongings stolen and, quite frankly, I am tired of hearing about other unsuspecting victims. Not only do many take a personal offense, but

"People are supposed to be giving, not stealing..."

they also wonder why about the thief's motivation.

I can remember numerous occasions from last year, involving incidents occurring in the girl's locker room. Lots of us ran to Ms. McPhee to report lost clothing or money. From last year alone, around 120 dollars were stolen—imagine what the klepto bought with that cash. Discmen and jackets out of hallway lockers seemed to be hot items among the boys. The mania has hit both genders, primarily girl, however there is another target category—it's the 'rich kids' or the 'snobs'.

In a small suburban school like Oyster River, everyone

knows who drives what Saab—I mean car—and who shops where. By now, many of the kleptos know who the kids with the nice ski jackets, expensive running sneakers, high-tech discmen, or—good lunches are. Why does this injustice happen in this small school? The answer still remains unknown.

With this question there is a simple solution; yet very inconvenient. A lock. Out of 374 lockers, only 66 lockers are protected by this annoying device. It is a sad commentary on society today that at a high school of less than 800 people need to worry about keeping stuff safe, probably from people that they grew up with.

The sad news is that charity among a minority in the home of Oyster River is quite questionable. I find it very hard to believe that when the kleptos were young their parents encouraged them to put a pack of gum in their pocket with-

out paying. In most cases, if you tried this approach you were scolded. That was when you were younger.

I am seventeen and although I may have tried that magic act when I was three or four, I wouldn't even ponder the thought today.

Think about it—it's the holiday season. People are supposed to be giving, not stealing, especially from their home. The reality of the punishment here, is a suspension. In the real world, the punishment will cost you a lot more time. If you are one of the people [a.k.a. kleptos] that I have made reference to, please next time you walk down the hallway and see signs for helping during the holiday, think about having it begin at school. I strongly suggest acting upon the quote mentioned in the second paragraph, especially during the holiday season. Also, to whomever has been stealing the lunches along the bottom hall, how was the ham sandwich?

ORHS Hockey Gives Opponents the Cold Shoulder

MOR Staff

A new season, a new team, and a good outlook for this year. The returning coaches for Varsity, Griffen Richards and assistant coach Sean Matile, feel enthusiastic about this year's hockey team. After the loss of last year's key seniors, it will be hard work. "Yes, it is hard to lose eight good players; especially all state members Matt Whittier and Chris Merenda."

In filling the open places, he feels that Scott Howard and Christian Quint will do well. Returning from last year to help in coaching the bobcats, Matile says, "I feel this year that we have a talented incoming class to fill in the open slots

for last year's seniors."

Captain Jesse Smith agrees, "We have some freshman and sophomores stepping up and playing a big role in the team's success."

To start the season, the varsity team suffered a 2-1 loss to Exeter. Smith commented that "We got shocked and we realized what we needed to do."

"In response to Monday nights game Colin Burke said 'I think we should have beaten Exeter, we have that potential.' The first goal of the season for the bobcats was scored by Derek Fox. Varsity goalie Senior Daymon Steer had 10 saves.

The team quickly rebounded Wednesday, with a successful 12-2 win over Somersworth.

Fox went on to score four more becoming the leading scorer of the season. Commented Smith, "Fox's goals have been a great start. They have really boosted the team." Steer had 18 saves on Wednesday.

Says Richards, "It has been hard for Somersworth to get a few wins under their belt, so we won't lose sight over this win."

One intense moment came when Burke, in the last period of the game, took a leg check to the knee by Exeter's captain. After assistance from the trainer he left the ice for the remainder of the game due to his injury. He played in Wednesday's game but left after two periods.



Senior Captain, Jesse Smith hopes to lead Oyster River hockey to a state championship in '98

Cheering A Statement: 1st Male Cheerleader at OR

Robert B. Heuchling & Abi B. Green

MOR Staff

Amongst the many flapping skirts of the OR cheerleading team one may notice one pair of blue pants. However it is not the pants that are causing a stir, it is the new sophomore member of the team who wears them that has everyone talking.

Chris Vissing is Oyster River's first ever male cheerleader, and the owner of those pants. He joined with more reason than everyone else. "I joined because I wanted to make a statement, but it also looked like fun... People come up to me and ask if some kid bet me and I'm being paid to do this, but I'm not," says Chris.

Chris first had the idea to join the day before the second try out. "I didn't tell anyone except a few friends. I just showed up at the tryouts like everyone else." He asked some male friends if they wanted to join with him, but they all declined and a few tried to convince him not to do it. "At first some of the members weren't thrilled I was trying out, but now they're fine with it."

"I was worried at first that he was trying out as a joke. It's obvious he wasn't because he works really hard," comments team captain, Paula Buffington.

"Other schools have boys on their team, yet our school

seems so against it. Here it's not a normal thing to do, I think it should be," says Chris. Many schools in the area have had male cheerleaders, including Dover and Monadnock. As a male member Chris doesn't have to perform in the dance routine. He performs the basic cheers and acts as a base, or a lifter, when the team performs. The base position requires more muscle because one is required to lift another member, or members, of the team into the air. "A lot of people think he made the team simply because he's a guy, but he's talented. He deserves the position," says Buffington.

The National Cheerleading Association's summer camp is always lacking in male participants but not in interest. Many Universities in Hawaii and southern states offer full scholarships to male cheerleaders. The coach, known as "Coach Connie" to the athletes, says she is happy Chris wanted to participate. "(At Oyster River) cheerleading isn't really a respected sport and since Chris is a male then he has two obstacles to overcome."

At the first boy's varsity basketball game Chris donned a bobcat suit but did not participate in the cheers. At the girls home varsity game Chris cheered with the rest of the team. Whether OR will accept the idea of a male playing a female dominated sport or not remains to be seen.

What's Wrong with Title XI: No Flexibility

For those unfamiliar with Title IX, it is a law mandating...

Benjamin Halleck
MOR Staff

For those unfamiliar with Title IX, it is a law mandating equal access to educational (and by association, athletic) programs for men and women in any school receiving federal funds. Title IX originated at Brown University in 1971 and Brown has since been the grounds of other gender/sports related controversy.

In 1992, gymnast and Brown under-grad Amy Cohen filed Cohen vs. Brown University, the highest profile Title IX class-action suit in history. Cohen and other plaintiffs suggested that Title IX's most viable interpretation was to give female students preferential treatment until schools had athletic programs that mirrored enrollment ratios.

Putting this demand on high schools and colleges is unfair because schools simply don't have the budget flexibility to fund all conceivable women's sports programs, and it is unjustifiable to cut men's programs until there are as few men in participation as women. Left without any other

options, it is clear that Title IX is in desperate need of reevaluation. To say that the goal of Title IX should be to have sports rosters that reflect enrollment is a result of laziness and inability to further examine the issue.

In the days before Jackie Robinson and Larry Doby, when blacks were denied participation in athletics, many thought that it was an injustice simply that black people were denied participation in athletics. The true issue is that talented black athletes were denied participation in athletics, not just black people. Just as in the case of blacks, it is not unfair that women are denied participation in athletics, but

rather it is that talented female athletes are denied such opportunity. Unfortunately, talent is not something that the government or any athletic director can qualitatively determine, making it near impossible to incorporate it into Title IX.

Talent aside, willingness to participate should be the factor that determines who is deserving of playing at varsity level in either high school or college athletics. At Brown, where enrollment is nearly 50% men and 50% women, intramural athletics (with unlimited rosters) are composed of 89% male and only 11% female participants. Why does this lack of enthusiasm on the females' part deserve 50/50

numbers at the varsity level? It doesn't. Clearly, men play a more active role in athletic participation, and in all fairness are more athletically inclined than their female counterparts.

With the two issues of talent and participation in mind, what is fair about matching athletic rosters to enrollment ratios? To do so is in direct contradiction to Title IX's basic principle: equal access. Equal access should mean that every able and willing athlete has the opportunity to play sports at a high school and/or college level. Otherwise, able athletes of both sexes will be denied athletic participation on the grounds of false equality.

Commentary Corner

The Great Goddess of Sleep



Devin Foxall
News Editor

Since the dawn of time, mornings at ORHS have centered around three things. The smell of freshly baked Spunkmeyer's, the first bite of a cheese bagel, and one presence more powerful than the other two combined.

Each morning this presence enters the school. A presence that threatens to ruin the minds of the student body quicker than listening to Hanson. A presence which, unless contained soon, threatens to dismantle the school in a thick gray haze.

Fortunately I have come up with a plan to do away with this devious force. A plan so simple it makes the act of chewing gum seem complex. Let's bring nap time back to the high school.

Ah yes... the wonderful carefree days of Kindergarten. So restful, so peaceful. From these orange painted walls comes our savior riding on the frothy wake of warm apple juice.

In all its glorious splendor the great goddess of sleep will

come drifting down the halls. A feather pillow in one hand and a pee-resistant rubber cot in the other. With a silent motherly kiss all tired students will soon be resting peacefully in their designated homerooms.

Today, students are bogged down with overflowing amounts of stress. The days can be crammed with varied duties, obligations and responsibilities. Having a nap time will give each student one hour of the day to put all this aside

"After awhile their incoherent ramblings begin to make RAP music seem intelligent (please don't shoot me)"

and succumb to the gentle stickiness of a rubber mat.

Nap time will also help boost student performance. Everyone knows that a well rested student performs better than a tired one. With lack of sleep,

a student's brain capacity begins to drop faster than Dirk Diggler's pants. After awhile their incoherent ramblings begin to make RAP music seem intelligent (please don't shoot me). Is this the school we want? Of course not.

Who knows, students may discover great bursts of creativity in their dreamy hour. Often the answer to a problem or dilemma will be revealed in a dream. As the great philosopher T.R. Wetrieb once said, "It is upon the sleeping hour that one will receive divine intervention in the form of a newfound spirit."

Nap time would also serve as a way of raising money for our underfunded school. Many scientific companies pay people to allow them to monitor their sleep. Some pay in the range of \$50,000 a month. If we had all 700 of our students participate in a nine month nap time experiment, we would raise over 315 million dollars. Enough to buy every member of the math team a new protractor.

In my dream I see a school where the students don't look like they've just sat through a nine hour lecture on the history of dirt. A school where the students don't stumble around like my uncle on New Year's eve. For when the windows of sleep are cleansed, the students will see things as they truly are: infinite.

Let Your light Shine



Kaitlin Gregg
OP/ED Editor

On the shortest day of the year, darkness replaced day stealthily, triumphant in its conquest of afternoon hours once ruled by soccer balls and pedestrians.

To us, the shifting of season, the natural progression of light to dark, is automatic. No one bothers to wonder whether the light will return. We know it will. We understand that the shortening of the days is merely due to the tilt of the earth, not to any otherworldly forces. However, many civilizations throughout history thought of the return of light as a gift. They knew no better than to assume that their gods lay at the bottom the cycle of death and rebirth ingrained within the earth.

In today's world, all the mystery has been removed. The shortening of the days is merely an inconvenience, not a sign. We no longer connect the changes in outer light with the inner light of a person. However, it is no coincidence that Christmas comes four days after the winter solstice. Jesus is the light given to the earth

by God. He is the spring, the rebirth.

Hanukkah is also about light. It is about the loving God who would keep one day's worth of oil burning for eight days, letting his children know they were not alone in a dark world.

For centuries, changes in light signified more than the shortening of days, and the seasons weren't marked by the changing of sports and champions. This change gave people a time to refelcet upon what light meant, upon the light within themselves signified.

When the musical GODSPELL was written in the '70's, many people felt that religion was made up of cold, inexplicable doctrines. The musical's creators sought to show people that religion taught light, warmth, and reality. It urged people to "let their light so shine before men." This message transcends religious realms. Everyone needs to realize that they contain light, that they have something to give the world.

If this holiday season represents anything anymore, it represents light. It reminds us that life is cyclical, that the sun will leave and return, just as the light in our lives grows and wanes. It also gives us an opportunity, a chance the let our own light fill others.

Give Peace A Chance, or at Least the Benches

Abi Green
MOR Editor

This year the class of '98 has introduced a new place to sit during their free periods; the benches at the top of the stairs. This simple area of the corridor has become a safe haven for senior free periods free of the librarian's stern glances.

Some administrators have felt, however that this sanctuary for relaxation has interfered with the learning envi-

ronment of the surrounding classrooms. To help combat this problem the benches have

been moved to a more remote location near the music room.

I was the first to express my discontent with the new bench arrangement and made my feelings very ap-

"I was the first to express my discontent with the new bench arrangement and made my feelings very apparent to any administrator who would listen..."

parent to any administrator who would listen. There seemed to be little sympathy expressed with the explanation

that school is a place for education and anything that interferes with that should be eliminated.

In a last resort, I spent a free period in the new bench designated area and to my surprise I thoroughly enjoyed my experience. Because classes were in session in the surround-

"To my surprise I thoroughly enjoyed my experience. Because classes were in session in the surrounding areas, we were able to be loud without fear of persecution..."

ing areas, we were able to be loud without fear of persecution and we did not have to move every three seconds for

a teacher or even worse, a freshman to pass.

This area is far from my locker which does pose a bit of a problem. But I am willing to overlook that.

In conclusion, I thank the administration for finding a feasible solution to a serious problem. I know some of you are still skeptical of the new arrangement but I ask

you to be open minded and give it a chance. Choose your battles and don't make this one of them.

Commentaries represent only the views of the authors. They do not reflect the opinions of the entire editorial staff or of the school in general. We encourage students to respond to our comments in the form of "Letters to the Editor."

Girls B-Ball Even After 4; Kowal Beats Brady With 6.8 Left

Jesse Smith
MOR Staff

With 6 seconds left in a tie game Julie Kowal stepped to the foul line. With the pressure of the crowd, her teammates, and the chance to seal the bobcats second victory of the season, she calmly sank the second free throw and the lady 'cats prevailed 48-47.

The win boosted their record to 2-2 and marked their best start in the coach Nichols' era. On sinking the game winning shot the humble Kowal stated "I shouldn't get all the praise, it was a team effort". Despite low expectations for the season from the local papers, the team has started off fast and that has created an optimistic outlook. "We have sur-

prised many people so far, and hopefully we will surprise people all the way to the state tournament." commented senior Meaghan McNally.

The bobcats have recieved strong scoring from Kowal as well as senior Kendra Oxford. The cats have a balanced team, from the force in the middle of Marissa Caron, to the speed and ballhandling of Casey Hopkins they seem to have what it takes to reach their goal of a birth in the state tournament.

Coach Nichols credits early success to versatility and team depth, as the second unit has played an important role so far. As for expectations on the rest of the season coach Nichols stated "Because of increased confidence, I think we have a realistic chance to reach the tournament this year."



Erin Carter shoots a free throw in a recent game against Saint Thomas Aquinas. The Oyster River girls' Basketball team has started off with a respectable .500 record

Athletic Accolades

Boys' Soccer:

Jamie Renner:

Portsmouth Herald's "Player of the Year"

1st Team All-State NHIAA

Portsmouth Herald All-Star Team

Foster's Daily Democrat Dream Team

Boston Globe All-Star Team

Boston Globe All Scolastic Team

Justin Fimlaid:

2nd Team All-State NHIAA

Portsmouth Herald All-Star Team

Foster's Daily Democrat Dream Team

Christian Quint:

1st Team All-New England

1st Team All-State NHIAA

Portsmouth Herald All-Star Team

Foster's Daily Democrat Dream Team

Boston Globe All-Star Team

Marc Hubbard:

Foster's Daily Democrat Dream Team

Honorable Mention All-State NHIAA

Cross Country:

Kaitlin Gregg:

Boston Globe All-State

Elizabeth Jackson:

Boston Globe All-State

Kristin Cosby:

Boston Globe All-State

Joyclyn Theriault:

Boston Globe All-State

Boston Globe All Scolastic

All-New England

Girls' Soccer

Meri Watson:

All-State NHIAA

Foster's Daily Democrat

Dream Team

Ayshe Woodward:

Foster's Daily Democrat Dream Team

Field Hockey:

Michelle Waleryszak:

Foster's Daily Democrat

Dream Team

Gymnastics Team: Leaping into Their Routine

MOR Staff

In only its second year at OR, the gymnastics team is optimistic. "I think we will be a strong competitor." says senior captain Rachel Gooze. With the loss only of two seniors from last season the team hopes to have continued success. "Last year was a building year. We have all improved a lot." comments Gooze.

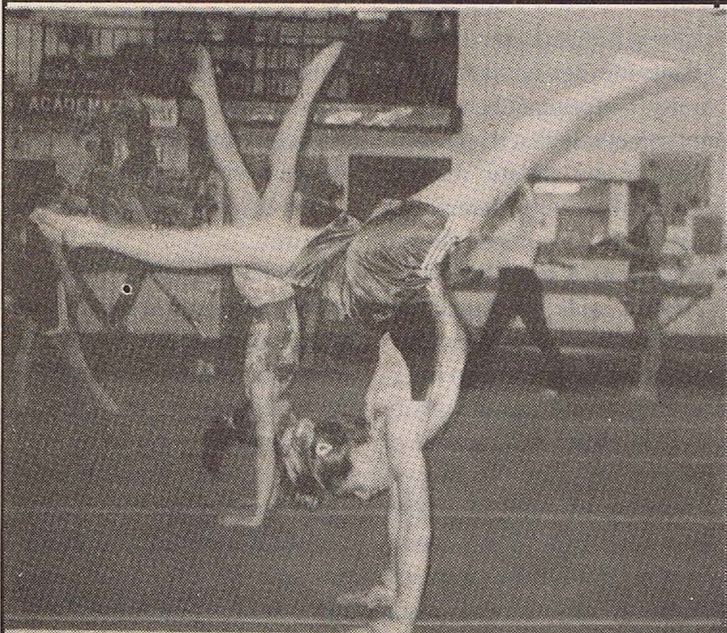
Freshman Allison

Tiberghan is expceted to be a vital addition to the team this year.

The first home meet at NESA will be on January 17. "I think this will encourage people to come to the meets and increase school interest in this sport." Gooze explains.

The new additions to the team this year are Amanda Gourgue, Hilary Porsche, Audrey Gray, and Jill Crawford.

The state meet this year will be held in Souhegan on February 21.



Oyster River Gymnasts show off their Stuff in practice early this season.

OR Swimmers Won't Give Opponents Time to Breathe

Benjamin Halleck

MOR Staff

In any sport, when a team has dominated like Oyster River has in Swimming, certain expectations, are placed. There is usually little doubt that a team will 3-peat as state champions after defending their title once. Many of you not involved with sports would believe that winning with such consistency would alleviate pressure, but the opposite is true. Unfortunately after a team has persevered through multiple championship campaigns, emphasis is taken off of the team's accomplishments and leaves the public inattentive until they are upset.

This year, the Oyster River swim team hopes to maintain the dynasty

that they have managed to build over the last two years. Without last year's high scoring seniors, the team may face some difficulty this season. Regardless, they are confident that they can step up as a unit. The team's performance at last year's state finals proved that

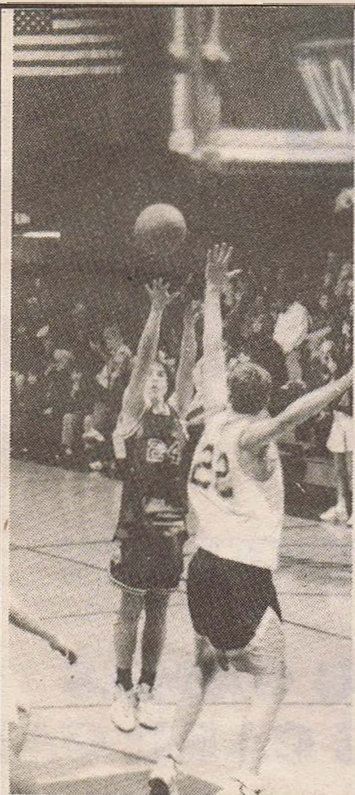
they didn't rely solely on their most valuable leaders. Hopefully this year's squad, with the addition of a few new members, can utilize their experience can prove Oyster River's cynics wrong.



This years Oyster River swim team plans on controlling the New Hampshire waters.



Boys' B-Ball: Looking for First Win Tonight



Brett Wyman throws up a shot against St. Thomas

MOR Staff

Oyster River boys Basketball is back for another competitive season. Mike Casey, Aaron Ward, and Matt Harmony will help try to avenge last years heart breaking semifinal loss.

The first two games have resulted in losses. Oyster River plays Timberlane in a must win game tonight in their home opener. If the boys lose tonight it will be hard to recover.

The latest loss came by the hands of arch rival Bishop "you can recruit the whole team" Brady. O.R. played strong and close in the first half, winning the first quarter. The boys couldn't hold off the overpowering Brady in the second half. "We stayed right with them for two and a half quarters. W weren't intimi-

dated, we didn't back down," Coach Don Maynard commented on the game.

The Green Giants exploded for 10 unanswered points and never looked back. Oyster River played with heart and pride but the final score (76-48) didn't depict this in the end. Brady's start forward, Billy Collins played extremely well, scoring upwards of 40 points with ten dunks.

The first loss of the season was handed out by Saint Thomas Aquinas. O.R was flat in the first quarter and fell to a nineteen point deficit. The second quarter yielded a come back for the Bobcats, and by half time O.R. was only down by six.

In the second half the Saints proved that they owned the board. St. Thomas opened up the score and didn't let the gap close. The final score was 73-

61.

St. Thomas accumulated 27 offensive rebounds by the end of the game. Coach Maynard commented that 27 offensive rebounds "is an astronomical amount. We didn't box out or go after the ball."

Oyster River has a very young team this year. Maynard is only returning two starters from last years team and in all four players. "This year's team has lots of younger players. They're inexperienced but skilled," commented Maynard.

"Monday's game is extremely significant. We cannot afford To go into Christmas break 0-3," said Maynard.

The boys need your fan support, show visiting teams that O.R.H.S. isn't a fun experience. Be loud, be fair, be there.

Sports Schedule Through Jan. 10 Casey Reynolds

MOR Staff

December:

23 Tues. Boys Freshman Basketball vs. Timberlane 4:00. Boys JV Basketball vs. Timberlane 5:30. Boys Varsity Basketball vs. Timberlane 7:00

27 Sat. Indoor Track Meet vs. Exeter, Pinkerton, Sanborn, Spaulding, West, Timberlane. At UNH 1:00. Girls Varsity Basketball Tournament 6:00 & 7:30

28 Sun. Girls Varsity Basketball Tournament 6:00 & 7:30

29 Mon. Girls Varsity Basketball Tournament 3:00 & 4:00

30 Tues. Boys Freshman Basketball vs. York 1:00. Girls Varsity Basketball Tournament 3:00 & 4:00

January:

3 Sat. Swimming/Diving Team vs. St. Thomas, Conant 1:00 at UNH. Indoor Track Meet vs. Central, Nashua, Timberlane, Trinity, Salem, Conant, Conval at UNH 5:00. Varsity Hockey vs. Winnacunnet 5:00

5 Mon. Varsity Ice Hockey vs. Winnacunnet 5:00. JV Ice Hockey vs. Dover 9:15

6 Tues. Varsity Ice Hockey vs. St. Thomas 7:00. JV Ice Hockey vs. St. Thomas 9:15

7 Wed. Swimming/Diving Team vs. Exeter, Keene 6:30 at UNH. Girls JV Basketball vs. St. Thomas 5:30

8 Thurs. Girls Freshman Basketball vs. Portsmouth 4:30. Boys Freshman Basketball vs. Portsmouth 6:00

9 Fri. Indoor Track Meet at UNH TBA

10 Sat. Swimming/Diving Team vs. Milford, at UNH 1:00. Boys Varsity Basketball vs. Conval 7:30

Winter Won't Chill Indoor Track Fever

New Coaches, New Athletes, New Season

MOR Staff

The revival of Winter Track at Oyster River may be eminent. With two new coaches, a slew of enthusiastic underclassmen and a talented upperclassman, the team is looking forward to a very exciting season. Coach Cathy O'Brian, a

former Olympian, commented "the team did great in their first meet, everyone put forth a solid effort. We are all psyched to continue improving for the rest of the season."

One of the major strengths of the team lies in its youth. Katie Evens, a freshman, said that she is excited for the season, however, she

grumbled "we really need more people." Nick Lanzer, another freshman, commented that he is running "to get in shape for spring track."

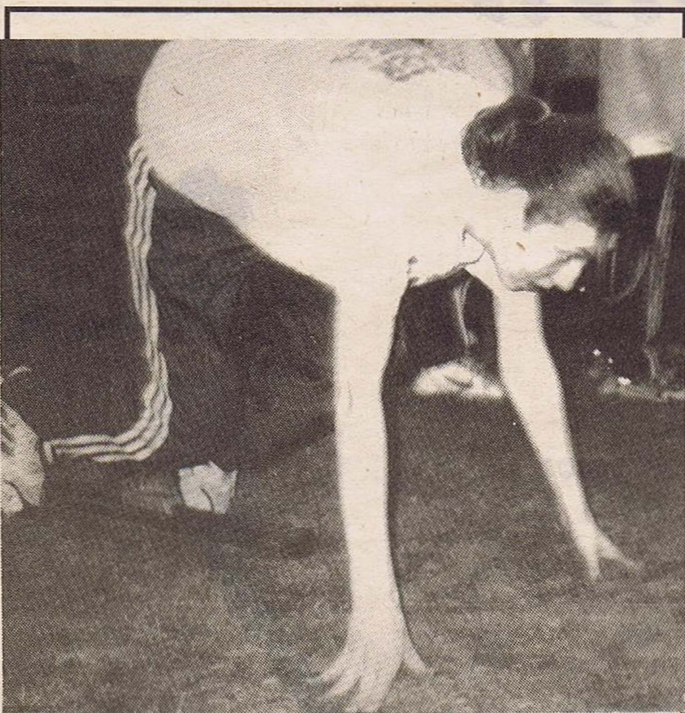
Many of the athletes involved in winter track also run during other seasons. Joyceln Theriault, a three season runner, commented that "Winter track is not high pressure, we are all out to have fun and get a taste of racing." Thomas Nazzaro, A sophomore, agreed with Theriault. "Even though we aren't the best we still enjoy running," he said.

The only detriment to the season seems to be the indoor track itself. Kristen Cosby jokingly commented "I love the

indoor track: the lack of oxygen, the noise, and the fluorescent lights that give you a headache." However, she said, "it is still totally worth it."

The athletes actually don't spend much time at the track, most of their training is done outside, even as the season grows

"The athletes actually don't spend much time at the track. Most of the training is done outside"...



Ginger Sawtell braces herself to explode from the starting block

colder. The team has all the elements necessary for a successful season: talented athletes, coaches with Olympic experience, and a desire to have fun.



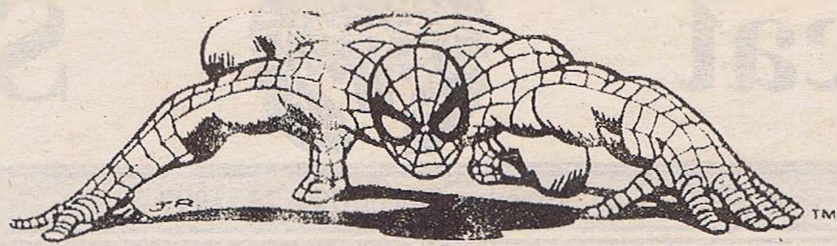
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DOWNEAST COFFEE • WED 6 30AM-11 00PM • OPEN MIKE (HAPPY HOUR) • VEGGIE BURRITOS
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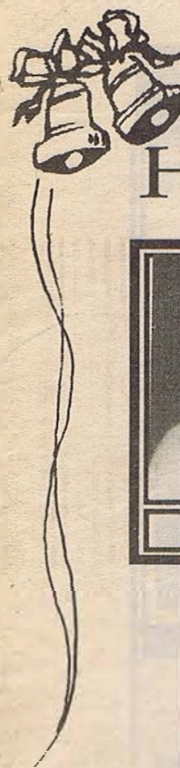
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